31761 07472477

Burpee, Lawrence Johnstone
Canadian novels and novelists

PS
8189
B87

LE-H
B568c

The Burpee's
Compliments

Canadian Novels and Novelists.

PS
8189
B87

Canadian Novels and Novelists.

By Mr. Lawrence J. Burpee.

[*Read February 8th, 1901.* { literary & Scientific Soc Ottawa

I have interpreted the title of this paper in the broadest sense, as including all branches of fiction, the novel proper, the romance, the short-story, etc. When the subject first suggested itself to me, I felt that there was scarcely sufficient substance in it for even a short paper, but upon making a careful examination of the field it appeared that instead of the existing material being meagre, I should have to resort to rigid compression to keep the paper within reasonable bounds. The very interesting section of French-Canadian fiction is consequently omitted altogether, to be dealt with perhaps on some future occasion, and in reviewing the course of the English section of our fiction, I have confined anything like a full treatment of the novelists and their books to the earlier and little-known writers, passing over more recent names as briefly as possible. [1]

Under the adverse conditions of pioneer life in a new country the first feeble efforts towards literature, semi-conscious at best, are found to be rather practical and utilitarian than intellectual. This applies especially to the case of Canada. Going back to the earliest beginning of our literary history we find, first, certain rough and ready accounts of explorers and navigators, descriptions of the country, its natives, etc. Then, books of advice (wise or otherwise) to immigrants, and other things of the kind. Following these, we come upon a mass of

1. A somewhat full consideration of the contemporary group of Canadian novelists will be found in an article by the writer, in the *Forum*, New York, August, 1899.

controversial matter, pamphlets, broadsides, early newspapers, and the like, contemporary narratives, etc, all of which eventually become the happy hunting-ground of the national historian. Afterwards the half-fledged off-spring of the Colonial Muse appears, singing in halting measure the simple but sincere songs of the new land of promise. And, finally, come the novelists, product of a period when the colony is developing into something like nationhood; when the stress and strain of frontier life has worn off, and men have time and inclination to write and read fiction. This literary development is not, of course, as distinct and arbitrary as the statement would imply. We shall discover one or two premature novelists in the earlier periods of our history, but, nevertheless, anything like a general development in the writing of fiction or the appearance of a recognized group of Canadian novelists, is not to be found except within the last decade or two.

The first novel written in Canada was "The History of Emily Montague," by Mrs Frances Brooke, wife of the chaplain of the garrison at Quebec. This book belongs to the once-popular class of epistolary novels. It was written in Quebec, and published at London in 1769, sixteen years after the appearance of the last of Richardson's famous trilogy of epistolary novels, "Sir Charles Grandison."

Mrs. Brooke's novel consists of a series of letters from Emily Montague, at Sillery, to her friends abroad, and gives an admirable picture of the life of the period at Quebec, both in city and garrison. 1

Over half a century elapsed before anything further appeared, and to Upper Canada belongs the honour of having produced the second book of fiction written in Canada. This

1. The History of Emily Montague. In four volumes, by the author of Lady Julia Mandeville. London, Printed for J. Dodsley, 1769. Vol. I. 140 p., Vol. II. 240 p., Vol. III. 223 p., Vol. IV. 213 p., 4 Vols. 12mo. This is the first edition. Another edition was published the same year at Dublin. It was translated into French by Robinet in 1770, (Amsterdam and Paris) and by Frenais the same year (Paris,) Another Dublin edition appeared in 1789; and another French edition at Paris in 1809. The original edition was dedicated to the then Governor, Sir Guy Carleton.

was "St. Ursula's Convent," 1. a mediocre story, belonging to the same general type which became so prolific and popular many years after in the hands of writers like "Ouida" and "The Duchess". The novel was published anonymously, but it subsequently appeared that the author was Mrs. Julia Catherine Hart, a native of Fredericton, New Brunswick, and who was living in Kingston, Upper Canada, at the time her novel was published. Mrs. Hart subsequently wrote a second book, a tale of Indian warfare and intrigue, entitled "Tonnewonte." 2

Major John Richardson, who may be regarded as the father of the historical novel in Canada, was born near Niagara Falls, Upper Canada, in 1797. He served in the war of 1812 and was taken prisoner, afterwards joining the British Legion in Spain, where he gathered material for one of his tales. In 1838 he returned to Canada, and devoted himself to literature and journalism. One of his romances, "Jack Brag in Spain", appeared in the *New Era, or Canadian Chronicle*, a newspaper which he had establshed at Brockville in 1840. His first book, however, appeared some years before this, "Ecarté, or the Salons of Paris", a novel published at New York in 1829, in two volumes. This was followed, in 1833, by his most important work, "Wacousta, or the Prophecy," a tale of Pontiac's war and of the seige of Detroit. Many of the scenes are laid in and around his boyhood home at Amherstburg. "Wacousta" was very favourably reviewed

1 St. Ursula's Convent, or, The Nun of Canada, containing scenes from Real Life In two volumes Kingston, Upper Canada: Printed by Hugh C Thompson, 1824, pp. 101, 132.

2. Tonnewonte, the adopted son of America. A tale, containing scenes from Real Life. By an American. Published for the trade. Exeter—B. H. Mader, 1831. pp 312.

M. Philéas Gagnon, the well-known French-Canadian bibliographer, has an interesting paper in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, Vol. VI. Second Series, 1900-1901, entitled: "Le premier roman canadien de sujet par un auteur canadien et imprime en Canada." In this paper he gives a full description of these two early Canadian novels, and a sketch of their author, Mrs. Hart, (formerly Miss Julia Catherine Beckwith), who was born at Fredericton in 1796, and died in 1869.

Mrs Hart also wrote a third story, "Edith," which however was never published.

by such authoritative English journals as the *Athenæum* and *Satirist.* Richardson's third book, "The Canadian Brothers," is a vigorously written romance of the war of 1812, in which, as has been stated, he himself took a part. 1 This was followed by "Matilda Montgomerie," "Wau-na-gee; or the Massacre of Chicago", "The Monk Knight of St. John," "Westbrook," "Tecumseh," and one or two others, founded chiefly upon incidents in Canadian history.

In 1838 the *Literary Garland*, a monthly magazine "devoted to the advancement of general literature", was started at Montreal, and for some years edited by John Gibson. The magazine ran for fourteen years, an unprecedented thing in Canada, and was by all odds the most important venture of the kind in the country, up to that time. 2 Its contents were mainly fiction, from Canadian pens, among the chief contributors being Mrs. Moodie and Mrs. Traill, two of the famous Strickland sisters, Mrs. Leprohon, Hugh E. Montgomerie, Reverend Joseph Abbott, Mrs. Maclachlan, Fennings Taylor, Dr. William Dunlop ("Tiger" Dunlop, as he was called) of the Canada Company, Mrs. Cushing, Mrs. Cheney and Miss. Foster, the last three sisters.

Mrs. Susanna Moodie was born at Bungay, in the County of Sussex, England, in 1803. Four of her sisters, Elizabeth, Agnes, Jane and Catharine, contributed to the literature of the period, the first two being authors of the standard works "The Queens of England," "Queens of Scotland,"etc. Susanna Strickland began to write when she was fifteen years of age, contributing short poems and tales to English annuals and magazines. In 1821 she married Mr. J. W. Dunbar Moodie, and they came to Canada the following year, settling on a farm near Port Hope, afterwards removing to a place near Peterborough, in what was then practically the wilderness. In her best-known book, "Roughing it in the Bush," Mrs. Moodie has given a graphic picture of the hardships they had

1. Published at Montreal in 1840.

2. First Series, December 1838 to December 1842. New Series, 1843 to 1852. Published by Lovell & Gibson.

to undergo in their backwoods home. Her first book written after she came to Canada was "Mark Hurdlestone, the Gold Worshipper." 1 This was followed by "Flora Lyndsay," 2 "Matrimonial Speculations," 3 "Roughing it in the Bush," 4 "Life in the Clearings," 5 "Dorothy Chance," "The Monck-tons," 6 etc.

Mrs. Catharine Parr Traill, who died only a couple of years ago, having nearly reached the century mark, was born in England in 1805. 7 She emigrated to Canada in 1832, with her husband, Lieutenant Traill of the Scotch Fusiliers. They settled near Rice Lake, in Upper Canada, where nearly all her books were written. Besides several charmingly written books of science, which furnish delightful reading as well to the novice as to the naturalist, she was the author of a number of tales, among the chief of which may be mentioned "The Canadian Crusoes," 8 "Lady Mary and her Nurse," 9 and "Stories of the Canadian Forest." 10

Mrs. Rosanna Eleanor Leprohon was born and educated in Montreal. She contributed to the *Literary Garland* at the age of fourteen, and subsequently wrote a number of novels, romances and short tales, as well as some rather

---

1. Published 1852, in 2 volumes
2. "Flora Lyndsay; or, Passages in an Eventful Life," 1854.
3. 1854.
4. "Roughing it in the Bush; or, Life in Canada," 1852.
5. "Life in the Clearings through the Bush," 1853.
6. 1856, 2 volumes.

Mrs. Moodie subsequently published a number of other novels and tales: "Hugh Latimer," "Rowland Massingham," "Adventures of Little Downey," "Soldiers' Orphans," "Over the Straits," "The World Before Them," 3 vols., and "George Leatrim," 1875. Mrs. Moodie died in 1885.

7. An interesting biographical sketch of Mrs. Traill will be found in the introduction to one of the last of her books, "Pearls and Pebbles; or Notes of an Old Naturalist."

8. Edited by Anges Strickland. Published by Hall & Vertue, London, and afterwards by Nelson & Son, Edinburgh. Ran through numerous editions.

9. Published 1850. Name afterwards changed to "Afar in the Forest." Many subsequent editions.

10. Published 1856.

The last book Mrs. Traill published, "Cot and Cradle Stories," appeared in 1895, when she was well on into her nineties.

mediocre poetry. Mr. Henry J. Morgan, in his "Bibliotheca Canadensis," says of her work in fiction—"She aimed principally to depict the state of society which existed in Canada prior to and immediately after the Conquest." Her first important novel was "Ida Beresford," which appeared in the *Literary Garland* in 1848. The following year "Florence Fitz Hardinge" appeared; and after these came in rapid succession, "Eva Huntingdon," "Clarence Fitz Clarence," "Eveleen O'Dounell," "Armand Durand," 1 "The Manor House of De Villerai," and "Antoinette de Mirecourt." 2 The last three, as well as the first, were afterwards translated into French. "Ida Beresford" was warmly praised by Mrs. Moodie in the *Victoria Magazine*, Belleville, of which she was then editor.

Turning now to the Lower Provinces, we come to a name which ranks head and shoulders above every other name in Canadian literature—Thomas Chandler Haliburton, "Sam Slick." Halibuton was born at Windsor, Nova Scotia, on the 17th December, 1796. He was educated at King's College, Windsor, graduating with honours; was called to the bar; and afterwards represented the county of Annapolis in the Provincial Assembly. In 1828, when only thirty-two years of age, he was appointed Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas of Nova Scotia, and in 1841 was transferred to the Supreme Court of that Province. In 1856 he removed to England and entered the English Parliament, where for several years he staunchly upheld Colonial rights in an assembly that, when not actively hostile, was indifferent on the subject. He died at his English home, Gordon House, on the banks of the Thames, in 1865.

It is impossibe to attempt to do even partial justice, within the limits of a general paper, to the work of one whom Artemus Ward pronounced to be the "father of the American

1. "Armand Durand; or a Promise Fulfilled." Montreal, 1868, 8 vo. Translated by J. A. Génand, 1869.

2. "Antoinette de Mirecourt; or, Secret Marrying and Secret Sorrowing; A Canadian Tale" Montreal, 1864, pp. 369 12 mo.

school of humor." Haliburton was not only a genuine humorist, one whose humor never became forced, and whose satire was absolutely free from that vitriolic quality which mars the work of so many writers, but he also possessed most of the qualities which belong to the successful novelist. His skill in character-drawing has rarely been excelled on this continent, and his dialogue and power of graphic description are only slightly less marked.

Haliburton's first book, "The Clockmaker; or the Sayings and Doings of Samuel Slick of Slickville," appeared originally in the *Nova Scotian*, in 1835-36. The *Nova Scotian* was then edited by another famous native of the Province, Joseph Howe. "The Clockmaker" was published by Howe in a small volume in 1837. It has since gone through some twenty editions, and was translated into German in 1840. 1 In that year "The Letter-Bag of the Great Western" 2 appeared; and in 1843 "The Attaché; or, Sam Slick in England." 3 "The Old Judge," 4 came out in 1840, and was translated into both French and German, besides running through many editions in English. "Wise Saws and Modern Instances" 5 was published in 1853, in two volumes; and "Nature and Human Nature" 6 in 1855.

1. The First, Second and Third Series of "The Clockmaker" were published by Richard Bentley, London, in 1837, 1838 and 1840 respectively. They were reprinted in 3 vols. 1838-43, in 8vo. The first United States edition was that of Le & Blanchard Philadelphia, 1837. Other editions followed: Concord, 1838 1839; Philadelphia, 1838, 2 vols.; Paris, 1841; New York, 1841; London 1845; London, 1848; Philadelphia, 1857; New York, 1858; London, 1862; London, 1870; New York, 1872; London, 1878; London, 1884; New York, 1889. The German edition was published by Braunschweig

2. "The Letter Bag of the Great Western, or, Life in a Steamer." By the author of 'The Sayings and Doings of Samuel Slick.' Richard Bentley London, 1840 8vo.

3 In 4 vols. Bentley, London, 12 mo. Other editions: London, 1849; New York, 1856; London, 1862; London, 1871. In Allibone's "Dictionary of Authors" a curious mistake is made, in speaking of this book. "In 1842" says Allibone "the writer visited England as an *Attache* of the American Legation, and in the next year embodied the result of his observations on English Society in his amusing work "The Attaché." This, of course, is absurd. The only time Haliburton visited England was in 1856, when he made his home there permanently, and entered the British Parliament. As a Canadian and a British subject he could not possibly be an *Attache* of the American Legation.

The *Illustrated London News* of July 15th, 1842, contained a sympathetic review of Judge Haliburton's work, from which the following is taken:

"The primary cause of its success, we conceive, may be found in its sound, sagacious, unexaggerated views of human nature—not of human nature as it is modified by artificial institutions and subjected to the despotic caprices of fashion, but as it exists in a free and comparatively unsophisticated state, full of faith in its own impulses, and quick to sympathise with kindred humanity; adventurous, self-relying, untrammelled by social etiquette; giving full vent to the emotions that rise within its breast; regardless of the distinctions of caste, but ready to find friends and brethren among all of whom it may come in contact.'

"Sam Slick" has found his way into every corner of the earth. A traveller records his surprise and pleasure at meeting with a well-thumbed copy in a log hut in the woods of the Mississippi Valley. Another traveller found one in the most northern town in the world, Hammerfest, Norway, where it was the constant companion of the British Consul. Forty years ago it is recorded that an able but very eccentric Danish Governor at St. Thomas, in the West Indies, was noted far and wide for his excessive admiration for "Sam Slick" and his sayings. Whenever a very knotty point arose before him and his Council, which consisted of three persons, he used to say, "We must adjourn till to-morrow. I should like to look into this point. I must see what Sam Slick has to say about it."

As Nova Scotia had her pre-eminent man-of-letters, so New Brunswick might also boast of her's, though on a lower

---

4. "The Old Judge; or, Life in a Colony." By the author of "Sam Slick the Clockmaker." 2 vols. Henry Colburn, London, 1849, 8vo. Appeared originally in *Frazer's Magazine*, Feb. 1847. Other editions: New York, 1849; London, 1860; New York, 1862; New York, 1880. Translated into German in 1849-50 and published in 3 vols. French translation, "Le Vieux Juge," *Bibliotheque Universelle de Geneve*, Tom. x, 1849.

5 Sam Slick's Wise Saws and Modern Instances; or, What he Said, Did, or Invented," 2 vols. Hurst & Blackett, London, 1853, 8vo. Other editions: Philadelphia, 1853; London, 1859.

6. "Nature and Human Nature. By the author of Sam Slick the Clockmaker, 2 vols. Hurst & Blackett, London, 1855, 8vo. New York, 1855; London, 1859.

A book wrongly ascribed to Haliburton in the "English Catalogue." Morgan's "Bibliotheca Canadensis," etc., is "Kentucky. A Tale" London, 1834. It is simply an English edition, with a different title, of James Hall's "The Harpe's Head, a Legend of Kentucky," 1833

plane than Haliburton. James De Mille was born at St. John, New Brunswick, in 1834, and died in 1880. He was educated at Acadia College, Wolfville, and at Brown University. From 1860 to 1865 he filled the important Chair of Classics in the faculty of Acadia, and was afterwards Professor of History and Rhetoric at Dalhousie College, Halifax. He was the author of some twenty or thirty novels and tales, all published in the United States. The Harpers brought out some of his best books, "The Dodge Club," "Cord and Creece." [1] "The Cryptogram," [2] "A Strange Manuscript Found in a Copper Cylinder," [3] etc. Several of these first appeared in *Harper's Magazine* as serials.

De Mille's first book was "Helena's Household," a story of the catacombs at Rome, in the days of the persecution of the Christians. "The Dodge Club" was published in 1869, some months before the first appearance of Mark Twain's "Innocents Abroad." It is a curious coincidence that two books, so similar in arrangement and style of humor, should have appeared the same year. There can be no possibility that one borrowed from the other, for De Mille's book appeared before "Innocents Abroad," and it would be absurd to suppose that a writer of Mark Twain's superabundant humor and intellectual resource could have the slightest occasion to pick another man's brains. While on the subject of coincidences, it might be noted that "The Clockmaker" first appeared in 1835, some months before "Pickwick Papers." Anyone who has read the two books must have been struck with their marked resemblance both in plan and treatment. As it actually has been charged against both Haliburton and De Mille that they borrowed from Dickens and Mark Twain respectively, it is important to lay emphasis on the fact that in each case the Canadian book appeared first.

Although Mrs. Scott Siddons selected it for one of her readings, and was enthusiastic in its praise, "The Dodge

1. Published, 1869
2. Published, 1871.
3. Published, 1888, after his death.

Club" hardly comes up to the level of "Innocents Abroad." It does not possess the overmastering appeal of Mark Twain's book, though its humor is as true, and the narrative equally bright and entertaining.

James De Mille's novels did not in any case represent the best work of which he was capable. He was always an extremely busy man, and his books of fiction were written at night, after the fatiguing work of the lecture room had been gone through. He himself called them mere "Pot-boilers," and looked forward to a period of comparative leisure, when he might produce the best that was in him. He died, however, in the prime of life, before his dream could be fulfilled.

Personally he was a most charming companion, a genial and entertaining talker among his friends, a musician and artist of more then ordinary skill, and a remarkable linguist. He read and spoke nearly all the languages of Europe, understood Latin, Greek and Anglo-Saxon, and had a working knowledge of Arabic and Sanskrit. He had wandered into every road and by-way of English literature, and enriched a text-book on Rhetoric which he prepared with such a wealth of illustrative passages from the English classics as will hardly be found elsewhere. 1

From about 1860, when the last of Major Richardson's books appeared, no book of fiction of any consequence came out in Upper Canada, (or Ontario,) until the year 1874, when Miss Agnes Maule Machar, of Kingston, a friend of Whittier's, publishsd a little tale called "For King and

1. The following is a fairly complete list of Professor De Mille's books of fiction, besides those mentioned above: "Martyrs of the Catacombs," 1858; "Andy O'Hara," 1860; "John Wheeler's Two Uncles," 1860; "The Soldier and the Spy," 1865; "Arkansas Ranger," 1865; "The Lily and the Cross," 1874, 1893; "Lady of the Ice," 1870; "An Open Question," 1872; "The American Baron," 1869; "The Living Link," 1874; "A Comedy of Terrors," 1872; "The Babes in the Wood," 1879; "A Castle in Spain," 1883. The dates of publication are those given in Allibone's "Dictionary of Authors," but their absolute accuracy is problematical, as MacFarlane in his "Bibilography of New Brunswick" gives different dates in nearly every instance, while he, again, is not sure of some of his own dates.

Country." This is a story of the War of 1812, giving not only an excellent picture of the chief operations in the Niagara Campaign, but also containing several charming descriptive passages of the scenery of the Peninsula Miss Machar has since written a number of other novels and tales, chiefly appealing to juvenile readers. She is also the author of a volume of very fair verse.

In 1877 Mr. John Talon-Lesperance, of Montreal, published a story of the American invasion of Canada in 1775-76, under the title "The Bastonnais." This book was afterwards translated into French.

In the same year William Kirby's historical romance, "Le Chien D'Or," appeared, in an unauthorized American edition. Several subsequent editions were published in the United States, also without the author's consent, and it was not until as recently as 1897 that the first authorized edition appeared, from the publishing house of L. C Page & Co., of Boston, under the title "The Golden Dog." It is a curious, and not very creditable, fact, that this novel, which ranks among the best written by a Canadian, has never yet appeared in a Canadian edition.

Mr. Kirby's romance is founded on an ancient tablet, containing an inscription surmounted by a golden dog. The tablet originally stood in the face of a building in the city of Quebec, dating from before the Conquest. When the building was pulled down in 1871, the tablet was removed and placed above the entrance to the Post Office, where it may still be seen. From the legend connected with this tablet, and from the love-affairs of the notorious Bigot, Intendant of New France, Mr. Kirby constructed his fascinating romance.

Sir James LeMoine mentions a pleasing incident in connection with "The Golden Dog.' It appears that Kirby was presents as a member of the Royal Society of Canada, at the At Home given to the Society in 1883 by its founder, the Marquis of Lorne. After some of the leading members of the Society had been presented, the Princess Louise sent

an Aide-de-Camp to Mr. Kirby, and after he had been presented to her, conveyed to him publicly the Queen's thanks for the pleasure Her Majesty had felt in reading his book. This incident is noticeable not only as a personal tribute to Mr. Kirby, but also as marking in a peculiar degree the thoughtfulness and tact for which the late Queen was so justly noted.

Another interesting point in connection with Mr. Kirby's novel may also be mentioned. It is embodied in the following letter, which I received a short time since from Mr. G. Mercer Adam, a Canadian man-of-letters, now editing the American edition of the "Encyclopædia Britannica," and the was for some years editor of the *Canadian Monthly*, Toronto:—

"Early in 1878" (he writes) "I was instrumental in bringing out William Kirby's Canadian romance, "Le Chien D'Or," which was founded on the legend related by J. M. LeMoine in his "Maple Leaves." The London *Graphic*, in an issue subsequent to this published a novelette with the same name, contributed by Besant and Rice, when these writers were working their literary partnership. About this time a number of piracies of Canadian things had been appearing in England, owing to the then absence of an international copyright. Among these unacknowledged reprints was the episode in regard to Lord Nelson related be LeMoine in "Maple Leaves," and other things. Being interested as a Canadian writer and publisher I wrote a letter protesting against these delinquencies, which was published in the Toronto newspapers as well as in the London *Athenæum* In that letter I gibbetted Besant and Rice among the latter delinquents, who, as I conceived, had just boiled down Kirby's romance and made a novelette of it for the *Graphic*, and this without a word of acknowledgment. I was by no means alone in conceiving that the *Graphic* novelette was a plagiarism; not only Kirby, the author of the story, was convinced of the theft, but LeMoine of Quebec was also of this opinion, and when my *Athenæum* letter appeared he was about to write showing up the appropriation in the London *Times*. Of this he tells me in a letter from him in my possession, dated September 24th, 1878. He calls Besant and Rice's novelette a 'clumsy, pale copy of a good original—Kirby's 'Chien D'Or,'" and adds that if Besant and Rice's denial that they had ever seen the latter is to be accepted, "then a curious literary coincidence must be accounted for." Well, the English novelists threatened legal action and cabled this information over, promising to send by mail a categorical denial of my charge. To meet this and defend myself I prepared a careful and lengthy statement enumerating all the points of resemblance between Kirby's book and their novelette, and my statement appeared in the Toronto *Globe* and *Mail*, occupying some columns in length, on or about September 22nd, 1878. Of course, as a gentleman, I was bound to accept their denial, and I closed by withdrawing my statements, and the suit fell to the ground The points I made, however, were so convincing that everyone believed that I had hit the nail on the head, and that the English novelists (Rice especially) were the culprits I had taken them to be. Rice, Dr. S. E. Dawson—then a publisher in Montreal—afterwards told me, was in Canada the previous summer, and had asked for any recent native literature, which he took home with him."

"The Golden Dog" has been twice translated into French, once by Mr. Louis Fréchette, and again by Mr. Pamphile LeMay, both of them very prominent in the French-Canadian world of letters. Mr. LeMay had already won even higher merit as a translator by his fine rendering into French of "Evangeline," which won the warm praise of Longfellow himself.[1]

In 1886 a romance entitled "An Algonquin Maiden," by Miss Ethelwyn Wetherald and G. Mercer Adam, was published at Toronto. It deals in a vivid and picturesque manner with the critical period in Upper Canada between the War of 1812 and the Rebellion of 1837. A new edition is said to be in contemplation by a Toronto publisher.

Mr. Gilbert Parker may very properly be regarded as Canada's leading novelist, whether we consider him merely among his contemporaries, or with the whole group of Canadian novelists. He is *not* to be compared with Haliburton, for Haliburton, though, as has been pointed out, his books reveal the essential qualities of a true novelist, was first and foremost a humorist.

Mr. Parker was born at Camden East, Ontario, in the year 1862. He studied at the Normal School, Ottawa, and at Trinity College, Toronto, where he was also for a time Lecturer in English Literature. He went to Australia shortly afterwards, owing to ill-health, and became associate editor of the *Morning Herald*. He travelled extensively among the South Sea Islands, embodying the result of his observations in a book of travel, "Round the Compass in Australia." While there he also wrote several plays, "The Vendetta," "No Defence," and an adaptation of "Faust." He subsequently returned to Canada and travelled extensively in the North-West, where he gathered materials for several of his sub-

1. For a full account of the "Golden Dog" legend, see Sir James LeMoine's "Maple Leaves," 1873, p. 89.
The legend referred to above is as follows:

"Je suis un chien qui ronge l'os,
En le rongeant, je prends mon repos;
Un temps viendra qui n'est pas venu,
Que je morderai qui m'aura mordu."

sequent books. He afterwards removed to England, which has since been his home.

His first novel, apart from short-stories, was "Mrs. Falchion," published in 1893. The scene is laid partly in Western Canada and partly in the Far East. In nearly all his subsequent romances the scene is laid entirely in his native country. His second novel was "The Trespasser;" [1] which was followed by "The Translation of a Savage," [2] in which an Englishman marries a beautiful young Indian girl, and carries her back with him to his English home, with unhappy results to her. "The Trail of the Sword," [3] "When Valmond Came to Pontiac," [4] "The Seats of the Mighty" [5] and "The Pomp of the Lavilettes," [6] followed in rapid succession, marking an almost continuous improvement in the author's style and in the symmetrical treatment of his theme. "The Trail of the Sword" has since been translated into French, and "The Seats of the Mighty" has been successfully dramatized. In 1898 he published "The Battle of the Strong," undoubtedly the strongest and most sustained piece of work he has yet put forth. The scene is in the Island of Jersey and in France; the plot is intensely dramatic and skillfully developed; and the characters are drawn with an assured touch

In a recent letter Mr. Parker tells me that he has completed a new Canadian novel, as well as another dealing with modern life in Egypt. He has also written a number of sketches of Anglo-Egyptian life, some of which have appeared in English and American magazines, and others are to follow. It is to be hoped that Mr. Parker's new duties in the British Parliament will not be allowed to interfere with his value as a man-of-letters. [7]

1. Pub. 1893; 2. 1894; 3. 1894; 4. 1895; 5. 1896; 6. 1897.

7. Since this paper was read Mr. Parker has brought out the new Canadian novel referred to above. It is entitled "The Right of Way," published 1901, and shares with two other Canadian books of fiction (by Seton-Thomson and "Ralph Connor") the distinction of heading the list of most popular books, in the United States publishers' lists and library reports, in December, 1901. The plot is of the "Enoch Arden," type, and very finely worked out.

Mr. Charles G. D. Roberts is a man of exceptionally wide intellectual activity. He was educated at King's College, Windsor, Nova Scotia, the same venerable institution from which graduated Haliburton and many others who have left their mark on Canadian literature or public life. Mr. Roberts subsequently filled the chair of English Literature at King's College for several years. He afterwards edited the Toronto *Week*, and was for a time associate editor of the New York *Illustrated American*. Of late years he has devoted himself entirely to literary work. Even before he left college Mr. Roberts had begun his literary career. His first book of verse was published about this time, and it was followed at intervals by some half dozen other volumes of poetry, the best of which he is about to re-publish in a Collected Edition. 1 He has also found time to write an excellent "History of Canada," a Canadian Guide-Book, and, what we are more immediately concerned with, several books of short-stories, and a series of historical romances.

His first romance was "The Forge in the Forest," published in 1897, and this was followed by "A Sister to Evangeline," which is in the nature of a sequel to the first book. The scene of both novels is laid in Nova Scotia, in the days when the Acadians were still tilling their dykelands around Grand Pré, and the Black Abbé was plotting for the overthrow of English authority in the Province. These stories are excellent examples of that very popular type of fiction—the historical novel. No one is more competent to write authoritatively and entertainingly of the romantic incidents of early days in Nova Scotia, than Mr. Roberts. In these books he has charmingly combined the varacity of the historian with the imagination of the novelist. They are among the best books of the kind that we have yet had in

1. Published in 1901. It embodies an excellent selection of his verses, though one would perhaps have liked to see a few more of the earlier poems.

Canadian fiction.

During the past few years a number of new historical romances have been written and published by Canadian writers, but it will not be possible to do more than touch upon them in the briefest possible way.

"The False Chavalier," [2] by W. D. Lighthall, of Montreal, is a very readable romance of New France ; and the way in which it came to be written is almost as romantic as the story itself. It appears that a bundle of ancient papers was accidentally discovered in an old manor-house in the Province of Quebec, and these, coming into Mr. Lighthall's hands, were worked into the present fascinating story.

Another Montreal novelist is Mr. William McLennan, whose first book, "Spanish John," [3] had a somewhat similar origin to that of Mr. Lighthall. "Spanish John" is a tale of the days when the Young Pretender was making a last desperate effort to regain the throne of his fathers. The scene is laid partly in Scotland and partly on the Continent. Mr. McLennan's second book, "Span O' Life," [4] written in conjunction with Miss Jean N. McIlwraith of Hamilton, Ontario, is placed in that romantic period of Canadian history surrounding the final conflict between France and England for the mastery of the New World. The story gives a vivid and convincing picture of the time, and covers both the Louisbourg Seige and also the final Seige of Quebec. [5]

Miss Blanche Lucile McDonell, of Montreal, brought out in 1898 a romance of French Canada entitled "Diane of Ville-Marie." The scene is laid in Montreal in the days when Frontenac was Governor of New France, and the gigantic and

1. Mr. Roberts has completed a new historical novel entitled "Barbara Ladd," the scene of which is placed in the same picturesque province by the sea.

2. 1889.

3. New York, 1898.

4. New York, 1899.

5. Miss McIlwraith has since brought out a novel of her own, "The Curious Career of Roderick Campbell," Boston, 1901. This is an historical novel, of the days before the Conquest of Quebec.

masterful Dollier de Casson ruled the spiritual destinies of Ville-Marie.

"Marguerite de Roberval," [1] by Mr. T. G. Marquis, Principal of the Collegiate Institute at Brockville, is a romance of the days of Jacques Cartier. It is founded on a picturesque old legend, which the early French-Canadian historians gave credence to, but which Parkman would not vouch for. The legend was to the effect that Roberval on his final voyage to New France brought with him his beautiful niece, Marguerite. Her lover slipped on board the vessel without Roberval's knowledge or permission, and in fact against his express command. His discovery led to a violent scene. Subsequently, malicious friends came to Roberval with scandalous tales involving Marguerite and her lover. Roberval's rage now knew no bounds, and embraced Marguerite as well as her lover. He left them unpunished until the vessel reached a bleak, uninhabited island, somewhere near the Straits of Belle Isle, called suggestively the Isle of Demons. Here he put them ashore with a few provisions, and abandoned them to their fate. In some versions of the story Marguerite's old nurse was permitted to accompany her unfortunate mistress. The tragic history of their life on the desolate and haunted island, furnishes the substance of Mr. Marquis's romance. Marguerite is finally left the sole survivor, is rescued by a passing vessel, and carried back to France, where she tells her pitiful tale to the nuns of a friendly convent. The same story has been graphically told in a long narrative poem, by the late Mr. Geo. Martin, of Montreal. Colonel Hunter-Duvar, the Prince Edward Island poet, also worked it into his drama "Roberval." It will be found, in a somewhat different form, in the famous collection of tales, "The Heptameron," of Marguerite of Navarre.

Mr. Edgar M Smith, is the author of an historical romance entitled "Aneroestes the Gaul,' [2] which has been

1. London, 1899.

2. Fisher Unwin, London, 1898. Grafton & Son, Montreal.

warmly praised by several leading English reviewers. It deals with the period of Hannibal's invasion of Rome—the Second Punic War, and is not only a graphic and forcible story of that famous campaign, but reveals a surprisingly close knowledge of the period. It is almost more valuable as a fragment of history than as a romance.

Miss Agness C. Laut, of Ottawa, published a few months ago a romance of the early days in the great North-West, when the hitherto all-powerful Hudson's Bay Company was fighting for its existence with the young and vigorous Canadian company of the North-West. Her book is entitled "Lords of the North," [1] and is the first attempt to put the records of this period of Canadian history into the form of romance.

"With Ring of Shield," [2] by Mr. Knox Magee, of Toronto, is a stirring tale of the days of the Hunchbacked King, Richard the Third of England.

There are several other books in Canadian fiction which, although not historical in subject, partake more of the nature of the romance than the novel. Such a one is Mrs. Harrison's "Forest of Bourg-Marie," [3] which Robert Barr has so deservedly praised in a recent article. It is the only sustained story which we have of modern life in French Canada, and is on the whole remarkably true to life, and a strong piece of work both as regards matter and style.

Another book of the same class is "Rose à Charlitte," [4] by Miss Marshall Saunders of Halifax. This is a romance of modern life, the scene of which is laid on the Nova Scotia coast of the Bay of Fundy, among the homes of the modern Acadians. Miss Saunders, is also the author of several other books of fiction, "Beautiful Joe", which was published several years ago, and reached a circulation of about half a million

1. Briggs, Toronto, 1901. Miss Laut has since completed a second historical novel, "Heralds of Empire."

2 Toronto, 1900. Mr. Magee has since published "Mark Everard." (1901) a romance of Elizabethan England.

3 Morang, Toronto, 1898.

4. Page & Co., Boston, 1898.

copies in the United States and Canada, and has been translated into German, Swedish and Japanese; "Deficient Saints,"[1] a novel of New England life and character; "Her Sailor,"[2] a modern love story, enlarged from an earlier book "Her Spanish Sailor"; and several other shorter stories, appealing rather to juvenile than adult readers.

Miss Lily Dougall, of Montreal, is the author of a number of novels, all of them of good quality. Her first book, "Beggars All," was published in 1891, and was highly praised by the London *Academy* and other authoritative journals. This was followed by "What Necessity Knows" (1893). "The Mermaid," (1895) "Zeit Geist," (1895) a rather remarkable departure in fiction, which created something of a sensation when it first appeared, "A Question of Faith," (1895), "The Madonna of a Day," (1806)[3] "A Dozen Ways of Love," (1897) and "A Mormon Prophet".[4] The last puts into the form of a novel the early history of the Mormons and of the remarkable man who founded that sect. Several of the other books have their scenes laid in Canada.

Mr. Grant Allen, who died in England about a year ago, was, as of course everyone knows, a Canadian by birth. He spent the greater part of his life, however, in England, and his books are in no sense Canadian, either in tone or theme. So far as his novels are concerned, perhaps we need not be over anxious to claim them in any event. He was much more brilliant, edifying, and successful, and one might also say, much more entertaining, as a scientific writer than as a novelist.

Mrs. Everard Cotes (formerly Miss Sara Jeannette Duncan) was born in Brantford, Ontario, and spent the first twenty years or so of her life in her native country. Her home is now in Simla, India, where her husband is a practicing physician. She has devoted herself to the writing of fiction

1. Page & Co., Boston, 1899.
2. Page & Co., Boston, 1900.
3. Appeared originally in *Temple Bar*.
4. Toronto, 1899.

for the past ten or twelve years. Aa a Canadian novelist she stands almost in a class by herself. Her books — or at any rate the best of them — are instinct with a certain quiet humour, which is all her own, and which is as rare as it is enjoyable. Her first, and best, book, was "A Social Departure," published in 1890.[1] In this she tells in a charmingly fresh and original manner the adventures of herself and one Orthodocia, in their unchaperoned journey around the world. The book is something akin to DeMille's "Dodge Club" in plan and humour, and might also be classed with Grant Allen's "Miss Cayley's Adventures" and Robert Barr's "Jennie Baxter, Journalist", but it appeals to the present generation more keenly than "The Dodge Club", and is vastly superior, both in narrative and in the quality of its humour, to the other two. Some of the scenes, such as the Japanese reporter's interview, and Orthodocia's experience in a Japanese bath-tub, are quite irresistible.

Her second book was "An American Girl in London,"[2] which sufficiently describes itself. It is almost as amusing and entertaining as its predecessor. This was followed by "The Simple Adventures of a Memsahib," "Vernon's Aunt,"[3] "The Story of Sonny Sahib," "A Daughter of To-day," "His Honour and a Lady," "A Voyage of Consolation," and "The Path of a Star".[4] The last book is much inferior to Mrs. Cotes' earlier work, and is a disappointment to those who have learned to look for something above mediocrity from her.

Robert Barr began his literary life as a humorist, writing for the *Detroit Free Press* under the pen-name of "Luke Sharp." He afterwards drifted into short-stories, and from that into novels and romances, and his last published book is an entertaining volume of travels in the Mediterranean.[5] His literary career has thus been a varied one.

---

1. "A Social Departure; or How Orthodocia and I went Round the World by Ourselves." London, 1890

2 Published originally in the *Ladies Pictorial*, London.

3 1895. 4. 1899.

5. He has recently completed a volume of short stories, "The Merry Monarch," narrating the romantic adventures of one of the Scottish Kings.

His first book was entitled "Strange Happenings," and was published in 1882, before he had left his boyhood's home in Ontario. He offered the manuscript to all the leading newspapers of the province, but they would not look at it. He then tried the *Detroit Free Press*, which not only accept-it, and what is more to the point, paid generously for it, but offered him a position on the staff of the paper. "Strange Happenings' consists of a humorous account of a voyage in a small boat around the southern shore of Lake Erie. It is not unlike Jerome K. Jerome's "Three Men in a Boat" in style and plan. Possibly there existed some unconscious affinity between them, for we find in after years the two novelists joining in the establishment of that amusing little monthly, the London *Idler;* which, by the way, has sadly degenerated, in other hands, from the brightness and humour of its first numbers.

In 1892 Mr. Barr published "In a Steamer Chair," and after that, "From Whose Bourne," (1893), "The Face and the Mask," (1894), "In the Midst of Alarms,"—a humorous account of the Fenian Raid in the Sixties—(1894), [1] "A Woman Intervenes," (1896), "The Mutabe Many," (1896), "One Day's Courtship,' (1897), and "Tekla" (1898.)

A couple of years ago a modest volume made its appearance in Toronto, under the title "Black Rock." [2] Being unassuming, it did not at first attract much attention. Its publishers were, fortunately, not of that enterprising type which announces a hundred-thousand edition before the book is on the market. "Black Rock" was therefore left to make its own way in the world, as any good book should, and its subsequent success is a striking tribute to the soundness of public taste. Slowly but surely the book gained ground, as one reader recommended it to another, until "Black Rock" became recognized as one of the strongest books of the year.

1. Mr Barr was a Canadian volunteer at the time of the Fenian Raid.

2 Black Rock. By Ralph Connor, Toronto. The Westminister Company, 1898 New edition, Toronto, 1899, with an introduction.

And yet it had no artificial boom; no heralding of its merits to an expectant world; and it was moreover quite free from any tinge of sensationalism, to appeal to the jaded taste of a public surfeited with new fiction. The author's name given on the title-page was Ralph Connor, but this soon became recognized as a non-de-plume, and it leaked out that the author was Rev. C. W. Gordon, of Winnipeg, a missionary of the Presbyterian Church.

The origin of "Black Rock" was as modest as its appearance. It seems that Mr. Gordon, anxious to raise funds for his mission in the far west, discussed the matter with the editor of the *Westminster*, a Toronto magazine. The editor suggested that he should put his appeal before the public in the popular form of fiction, and Mr. Gordon, after some hesitation, agreed to this, and sent to the *Westminster* a sketch of a mining camp in the Rockies, such a camp as formed the scene of his own missionary labours. This afterwards became the first chapter of "Black Rock," and was followed by others, until the story was completed. It is not particularly well constructed, so far as plot is concerned, but this weakness is more than redeemed by the freshness and originality of its treatment. It is a strong, sincere, and very dramatic piece of work—altogether one of the best bits of fiction produced by a Canadian.

A beautiful little idyl of the Foot-hills of the Rockies, called "Beyond the Marshes," was Mr. Gordon's next contribution to Canadian literature. This sketch was prefaced by a sympathetic introduction, by the Countess of Aberdeen.

In the "Sky Pilot"[1] Mr Gordon changed his scene from the Pacific Slope of the Rockies to the foothills and plains on the eastern side of the mountains—somewhere in the neighhood of Calgary or Fort McLeod. This book has, if anything, had a wider success than "Black Rock," and the two books have reached an enormous circulation in the United

1. The Sky Pilot. A tale of the Foothills. By Ralph Connor. Toronto. The Westminster Co., 1899. New ed. 1899.

States and Canada, and are beginning to make headway in England,—always an uncertain field for trans-atlantic books. Two sisters, the Misses Lizars, of Stratford, Ontario, brought out a few years ago a couple of remarkably interesting and attractively written books, the first called. "In the Days of the Canada Company," and the second, "Humours of '37." They are, as their titles imply, contributions to the early history of Ontario, but have none of the dry-as-dust quality of conventional histories. Since the appearance of these two books, the sisters have again collaborated upon a book of fiction, "Committed to His Charge," [1] a simple story of village life in Ontario, graphically told, and with not a little quiet humour. The story is something in the manner of Mrs. Gaskell's "Cranford."

Another Canadian book of the same class is "Baldoon," [2] by the Rev LeRoy Hooker, a Canadian clergyman now living in Chicago. This book is perhaps more closely akin to Barrie's "Window in Thrums" than to "Cranford," the humour being essentially Scotch in tone. Mr. Hooker also wrote another book, "Enoch the Philistine."

Miss Joanna E. Wood, of Queenston, Ont., is the author of several books of fiction. The first two, "The Untempered Wind," (1894), and "Judith Moore," (1898), are novels of rural life in Ontario. The third, lately published, "A Daughter of Witches" (1900), is a rather clever study of character as found in a New England environment. Miss Wood has completed a fourth book "Farden Hall," the scene of which is laid in Scotland, and which promises to be the best she has yet written.

A new type of fiction has lately become popular with Canadian novelists. It aims to bring the life of what we call the "lower animals" sympathetically before human readers. The idea is not an entirely new one, for Kipling, (to cite no earlier examples), introduced it very successfully in his Jungle

1. Morang, Toronto, 1900.
2. Chicago, 1899; Toronto, 1900.

Books. The Canadian stories, however, are sufficiently different in treatment, scenery, and in the animals they introduce, to appeal with something of novel force to present-day readers.

The first and best of these animal books is Mr. Ernest Seton-Thompson's "Wild Animals I Have Known." [1] Since the publication of this delightful collection of animal tales, Mr. Seton-Thompson has brought out two additional stories, the first entitled, "The Trail of the Sand-Hill Stag," [2] and the second, "The Biography of a Grizzly." [3]

Another book of the same class is Mr. W. A. Fraser's "Mooswa, and Others of the Boundaries," [4] which first appeared as a serial in the *Canadian Magazine*. Mr. Fraser has completed a new animal story, "The Outcasts," [5] which is to be published this year.

Mr. Charles G. D. Roberts has also entered the same field with his "Heart of the Ancient Wood," (1900), in which, however, the human element is introduced more freely than in any of the other animal stories.

All of these books are good in their way, and each contains sufficient originality to save it from any suggestion of plagiarism, either in matter or ideas, but there is a possibility that if the thing be carried too far the public will grow tired. It is a familiar phenomenon in the book world that when one man makes a success of a new departure in fiction, others immediately rush in to gather the after-math, until the type becomes a positive bore. Already a dozen or more American writers have taken advantage of Seton-Thompson's phenominal success, to force upon the market more or less crude attempts in the same direction.

The field of juvenile fiction has been by no means neg-

---

1. Scribners, New York, 1898.
2. New York, 1899.
3. New York, 1900. Mr. Seton-Thompson has since published another collection of animal-stories, "Lives of the Hunted," New York, 1901.
4. New York, 1900. Briggs, Toronto, 1900
5. New York, and Toronto, 1901.

lected in Canada, but it is impossible to more than touch upon it here. Two or three successful writers of boys' stories may be mentioned in passing.

James DeMille, whose work in fiction has already been dealt with, brought out a number of excellent boys' books, in two series, "The B. O. W. C." (Boys of Wolfville College),[1] and "Young Dodge Club,"[2] the former in six volumes, and the latter in three. Most of these books have run through several editions.

Mr. J. Macdonald Oxley, who has devoted himself almost exclusively to this class of fiction, promises to be almost as prolific a writer as the renowned Mr. Henty. Since the publication of his first story, "Bert Lloyd's Boyhood," in 1887, he has brought out some fifteen or sixteen books of adventure, all good of their kind.

Mr. E. W. Thomson, until lately editor of the *Youth's Companion*, has done excellent work in this field.

It is interesting to note how very generally our Canadian poets have dabbled in fiction, and with, comparatively speaking, what scant success. Mr. Roberts has certainly produced some very fair romances and short stories, and he must be taken as an exception to the rule. Charles Heavysege, the old Montreal dramatist, whose splendid drama "Saul" received such warm praise from Longfellow, Hawthorne, Emerson, Bayard Taylor, and Coventry Patmore, once tried his hand at a novel, but the result, which he called "The Advocate,"[3] was a most lamentable failure. John Hunter-Duvar, the Prince Edward Island poet, published a rather dainty piece of imaginative work, "Annals of the Court of Oberon," but the historical novel which he subsequently wrote, and thought to be the best thing he had ever written, is such a crude and tedious bit of fiction as no publisher would ever dream of putting on the market. It is still in manuscript. Archibald Lampman began an ambi-

1. Published 1869 1873.
2. Published 1871-1877.
3. "The Advocate: A Novel. Montreal. 1865. 8vo.

tious novel while at college, but gave it up after writing two or three chapters. Duncan Campbell Scott has published one little book of short stories, excellent so far as they go, but, up to the present, he has produced nothing more, at any rate in book form. Isabella Valancy Crawford, William Wilfred Campbell, [1] Jean Blewett, Frederick George Scott, Louis Fréchette, and others of our poets, have made random attempts at writing fiction, but apparently have regarded it rather as a recreation from the more serious work of writing poetry. This attitude, of course, never yet brought success, and never will. In fact, the qualities that go to make a successful poet rarely produce a successful novelist.

The short-story has been a very popular form with Canadian novelists, especially of late years. Most of our writers who have done more sustained work in fiction, have at one time or another attempted the short-story, not realizing, too often, that the short-story requires a distinct gift, and that it can no more be successfully written by *any* novelist, than a sonnet may be written by *any* poet, or a miniature painted by *any* artist.

Mr. Gilbert Parker has published, so far, three volumes of short-stories, "Pierre and His People," [2] (his first contribution to fiction), "An Adventurer of the North," [3] in which the adventures of Pretty Pierre are continued, and "The Lane that Had no Turning." [4] The scenery of the first two books is in the Canadian North-West, and the latter is placed in Quebec. Mr. Parker holds the unique position of having written the best short-stories as well as the strongest romances of all our Canadian novelists.

1. Since the above was written Mr. Campbell has written an excellent piece of fiction, for one of the leading London periodicals, and is now engaged upon a second novel; which in a measure tends to weaken the argument against poets as novelist.

2 Toronto, 1892.

3. Toronto, 1895.

4. Toronto, 1900.

The fascinating field of French-Canadian life and character, which Dr. Louis Fréchette has dealt with from the point of view of an insider in his "Christmas in French Canada," [1] has also been widely touched upon by English-Canadian writers. Among these may be mentioned E. W. Thomson's "Old Man Savarin," [2] Henry Cecil Walsh's "Bonhomme," [3] "In the Village of Viger," (1896), by Duncan Campbell Scott; "In Old France and New" (1900), by William McLennan; and G. M. Fairchild's, "A Ridiculous Courting." (Chicago, 1900.)

Other books of Canadian short stories are; "The Gerrard Street Mystery," (1888), by the late J. C. Dent, the historian; "Stories of New France," by Miss Agnes Maule Machar and T. G. Marquis; Mrs. Harrison's "Crowded Out," (1886); Robert Barr's "In a Steamer Chair," (1892), "The Strong Arm," (1899), etc.; "The Eye of a God," (1899) by W. A. Fraser; Roberts' "By the Marshes of Minas," (1900), etc.; "The Loom of Destiny," (1900), by Arthur J. Stringer; J. Try-Davies' "A Semi-Detached House," (1900); F. Clifford Smith's "A Lover in Homespun," (1896); Norman Duncan's "Soul of the Street," (1901), etc.

I am more than conscious that in the foregoing attempt to review Canadian fiction, I have taxed your patience to the utmost, and have done but very scanty justice to the wide field which I have attempted to cover. In spite of every effort to condense, what I hope has been shown to be a large and important branch of our national literature, this paper has grown to far greater proportions than was either desirable or expedient. When I tell you, however, that I have counted over two hundred and fifty authors in English-Canadian fiction alone, without counting the contribution of French-Canadian novelists,

1. Morang, Toronto, 1900.
2. Briggs, Toronto, 1895.
3. Briggs, Toronto, 1899.

and leaving out of consideration, as well, the mass of fiction by Canadian writers which has appeared in various magazines but not in book-form, you will, I think, agree with me that the space here given to the subject of Canadian Novels and Novelists is not after all so very much out of the way.

PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE
CARDS OR SLIPS FROM THIS POCKET

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO LIBRARY

PS
8189
B87

Burpee, Lawrence Johnstone
Canadian novels and
novelists

UTL AT DOWNSVIEW
D RANGE BAY SHLF POS ITEM C
39 14 10 07 04 001 4